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BEDOWAY JUSTICE COUR

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## Comment on the Department of Energy's Recommendation of the Yucca Mountain Site



My comments on the Yucca Mountain Project are as follows:

- ☒ Decision documents are incomplete without a full analysis of transportation impacts.
- ☒ All spent fuel disposal alternatives should be thoroughly studied prior to a site recommendation decision.
- ☒ A "flexible" set of evolving design scenarios with variable operational modes is insufficient for a suitability decision.
- ☒ The design should contain waste within the repository as long as it remains hazardous to people and the environment.
- ☒ A site recommendation should not be made until the comments made by the public on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement have been adequately addressed and released for public review.

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Comments:

The Department of Energy has released the *Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation* for a geologic repository at Yucca Mountain for public review and comment. This is the final opportunity citizens will have to voice their concerns before the Secretary of Energy makes his recommendation to the president. DOE is required to consider all comments submitted regarding the impacts of building and operating a repository, including transportation.

My comments are: In view of recent events, transportation issues need thorough examination. Unlike many hazardous and toxic materials, radioactive wastes cannot easily be contained and cleaned up. Once the materials are in the water and the air, they can cause harm for centuries to come. The potential damage is a real threat whether the accident occurs "naturally" (e.g. train wrecks east of Bottle Mountain 6/01 and Wadsworth 9/12/01) or "unnaturally" by terrorists. The transportation of nuclear waste by rail or by truck creates potential risk for a large segment of the U.S. population. A repository at Yucca Mountain is a dangerous proposition.

Further, the repository at Yucca Mountain has been promoted as being able to contain the waste "geologically." Recent studies show that the area is more recently volcanic and the site has more water permeability than previously thought. The response: make the casks better. Yet, the original cask materials that were supposedly "100% scientifically guaranteed" are now known to corrode. "Let science decide" - I don't think so. Science once thought that DDT was safe.

Other fuel disposal alternatives must be thoroughly studied. Recommending Yucca Mountain as an appropriate repository increases danger to all Americans, not just to Nevadans, for generations to come.

FROM:

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here

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Fold, tape, and MAIL your comments to the address above.

FAX your comments to DOE: 1-800-967-0739.

Or, comment by E-MAIL: YMP\_SR@ymp.gov.

**Deadline:**  
**Comments must be received by**  
**Thursday, September 20, 2001**

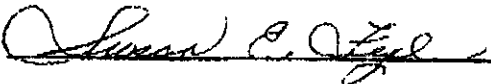
DOE: Please add my comments to the official record. Here is my name, address, and signature

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Signature



Date 10-01-01